



**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF TEXAS**

AUSTIN 11, TEXAS

**PRICE DANIEL
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

May 20, 1947

Hon. J. F. Ward, Chairman,
Contingent Expense Committee,
House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas

Opinion No. V-211

**Re: The legality of
payment, during
the interim, for
newspaper sub-
scriptions for
members of the
House of Repre-
sentatives from
the House Con-
tingent Expense
Account.**

Dear Sir:

Your request for an opinion upon the above
subject matter is as follows:

"Please give the Contingent Expense
Committee of the House of Representatives
an opinion as to whether or not it is per-
missible for the Contingent Expense Ac-
count to stand the expense of a member's
newspaper subscription during the interim.
Several House members have made such a re-
quest and as I can find no precedent con-
cerning such a request, I would appreciate
an opinion from your office as final auth-
ority."

You are respectfully advised that it is not
lawful to pay from the Contingent Expense Account of the
Legislature the expense of a member's newspaper sub-
scription during the interim.

Such expense could not be construed to be for
a public purpose with respect to any duty imposed by law
upon the member.

There are, of course, certain interim expenses
of members permissible to be paid, where they are acting
in an interim committee capacity for some lawful legisla-
tive purpose, but the case put by you does not fall with-
in that class of claims.

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SUMMARY

A member's expense for newspaper subscription during the Legislative interim may not be paid from the Contingent Expense Account of the Legislature.

Yours very truly,

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

By

Ocie Speer
Ocie Speer
Assistant

OS:wb

APPROVED MAY 20 1947

Price Daniel
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS